

Message Text

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64

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
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R 141041Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6216

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 0227

STATE FOR CU/EE

USIA FOR IEU AND ICS/DS

VIENNA FOR RPO

LONDON FOR RRU

BONN FOR USIS/BAKER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL RO

SUBJECT: PROPOSED AMERICAN SPECIALIST GRANT FOR JOHN AND MAGDA
MCHALE

REF: USIA 058; BUCH 6664; BUCH 3492; BUCH CPP OBJECTIVE WS-01

1. THE POST WISHES TO PROPOSE DR JOHN MCHALE AND DR MAGDA
MCHALE OF THE CENTER FOR INTEGRATIVE STUDIES, STATE UNIVERSITY
OF NEW YORK AT BINGHAMTON FOR AMSPECIALIST GRANTS TO BE USED IN
SEPTEMBER 1976. THE MCHALES WOULD PARTICIPATE IN ONE OF THE
POST'S MAJOR BICENTENNIAL PROGRAM, "THE U S IN THE YEAR 2000,"
TO DISCUSS MAJOR TRENDS IN THE FIELD OF FUTUROLOGY BASED ON
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WHAT PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE DOING IN THE U.S.

TO PROVIDE "FUTURES OPTIONS" IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING AMERICAN SOCIETY AS IT APPROACHES THE 21ST CENTURY. ALL FIELDS DEALT WITH IN THE YEAR 2000 SERIES INVOLVE AREAS WHICH SHOULD BE NOT ONLY OF BILATERAL U.S.-ROMANIAN INTEREST BUT RATHER OF WORLDWIDE APPLICATION AND ADDRESSEE POSTS MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN PROGRAMMING THE MCHALES AS WELL AS OTHER SPECIALISTS IN THE FIELDS OF ENERGY ALTERNATIVES, TRANSPORTATION, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION AND THE ARTS.

2. THE POST HAS PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED ALVIN TOFFLER AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE SAME SERIES AND WAS GRATIFIED TO LEARN OF HIS SCHEDULED VISIT IN MAY. THE MCHALES' ROLE WOULD DIFFER FROM THAT OF TOFFLER IN THAT WHILE TOFFLER WOULD SET THE TONE FOR THE SERIES AND PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW, THE MCHALES WOULD CONCENTRATE SOLELY ON THE FUTUROLOGY MOVEMENT, ITS PRINCIPAL FORMS (INCLUDING FORECASTING AND FUTURES RESEARCH) AND OFFER THEIR OWN ANALYSES ON SUCH SUBJECTS AS AN EXAMINATION OF POLICY PRIORITIES IN THE UTILIZATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES, MAN'S ABILITY TO ADAPT TO FUTURE PRESSURES AND STRAINS, MODEL BUILDING AND GAME THEORY AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN FUTUROLOGY. THE MCHALES ARE OPTIMISTS AND HAVE BEEN WIDELY PUBLISHED. THEY ARE ARTICULATE AND THOROUGH SPEAKERS WHO WERE RATED VERY HIGHLY IN USIS SPONSORED LECTURES LAST FALL IN WESTERN EUROPE.

3. JOHN MCHALE WAS BORN IN SCOTLAND, HIS WIFE IN HUNGARY. HE IS AN ARTIST, DESIGNER AND SOCIOLOGIST. A FELLOW OF THE WORLD ACADEMY OF ART AND SCIENCE AND MANY FUTURE-ORIENTED ORGANIZATIONS HE AND HIS WIFE HAVE LECTURED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD ON FUTURES RESEARCH. HE IS AN ARTICULATE AND HUMANE MAN WHO CAN PRESENT COMPLICATED THEORIES AND FINDINGS IN AN EASILY DIGESTABLE FORM FOR LAYMEN AND EXPERTS ALIKE. THEY JOINTLY WROTE THE HIGHLY ACCLAIMED ASPEN INSTITUTE STUDY ENTITLED "HUMAN REQUIREMENTS, SUPPLY LEVELS AND OUTER BOUNDS: A FRAMEWORK FOR THINKING ABOUT THE PLANETARY BARGAIN," WHICH LENDS PERSPECTIVE TO PREDICTIONS ABOUT THE DIMINUTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND RESULTING CONSEQUENCES. THEIR THESIS ON THIS SUBJECT WAS PERHAPS BEST SUMMED UP IN A PAPER "BEYOND THE EXPONENTIALS" IN WHICH JOHN MCHALE WRITES: "WE DO NOT HAVE CRISES IN ENERGY, IN THE ENVIRONMENT, IN TECHNOLOGY, IN FOOD SUPPLY, ETC. THEY ARE ALL INSTITUTIONAL CRISES. THEY DERIVE FROM PARTICULAR SETS OF IN-

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STITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND POLICIES, OF MODES OF ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL EXPLOITATION, WHICH HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED AS EXPEDIENT IN THE SHORT RANGE." THE SOLUTION LIES, HE FEELS, IN A REORDERING OF THESE PRIORITIES WHICH CAN LEAD TO A HAPPIER AND BETTER BALANCED WORLD SITUATION.

4. THOUGH DIFFERENT IN APPROACH AND CONTENT FROM TOFFLER'S EFFORTS, THE MCHALES' LECTURES AND MEETINGS LOCALLY WOULD SIMILARLY

FOCUS ON DECISION MAKING IN A FREE SOCIETY INVOLVING THE MAJOR ISSUES OF THE NEXT QUARTER CENTURY. BY THEIR EXAMPLE THEY CAN DEMONSTRATE THE VITALITY OF THE WESTERN DEMOCRATIC PROCESS IN RAISING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS AND OUR ATTEMPTS, ALBEIT NOT ALWAYS SUCCESSFUL, TO COME TO GRIPS WITH PROBLEMS AND TO OFFER SOLUTIONS WHICH MAY HAVE APPLICABILITY FOR NON-AMERICANS AS WELL. THE MCHALES ARE KNOWN AND RESPECTED BY LOCAL FUTUROLOGISTS AND HAVE TOTAL CREDIBILITY IN A FIELD WHICH MANY CONSTRUE AS A UNIQUE, SENSITIVE AND SIGNIFICANT ONE OF ACADEMIC INQUIRY.

5. THEIR PROGRAM WOULD IDEALLY CONSIST OF THREE WORKING DAYS AND INVOLVE LECTURES BY EACH IN THE "2000" SERIES IN ADDITION TO OFF-PREMISES VISITS TO INSTITUTIONS INTERESTED IN FUTURES-ORIENTED WORK.

6. USIA HAS CONTACTED THE MCHALES TO GUAGE THEIR WILLINGNESS AND AVAILABILITY TO PARTICIPATE AND THEY HAVE PROPOSED THE SEPTEMBER 7-9 PERIOD FOR A BUCHAREST PROGRAM. THEY RECOGNIZE AT THIS STAGE THAT NO FORMAL COMMITMENT HAS BEEN MADE. THE POST WILL SETTLE FOR THIS DATE ALTHOUGH ITS PREFERENCE WOULD BE FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

7. THE MCHALES CAN BE REACHED AT THE CENTER FOR INTEGRATIVE STUDIES, SCHOOL OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK 13901.

8.FOR USIA: ICS/DS: POST APPRECIATES YOUR QUICK RESPONSE IN CONTACTING THE MCHALES.
BARNES

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